

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Correspondence of the Alex. Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 22, 1887.

The holiday here to-day is almost as general as it is in Alexandria. All the Government departments and all the District offices are closed, flags are flying from all the flag-poles in the city, the sidewalks of Pennsylvania avenue are crowded with people, and at times different soldier and fire companies, headed with bands of music, are marching about the streets. Thousands of people left here for Alexandria, all the boats and trains leaving here for that city being crowded on every trip. The White House was shut up, the President and his wife driving out to Oak View and spending the day there.

Mr. Tucker has returned and the House judiciary committee met this morning but postponed the consideration of the direct tax bill and the bill for changing inauguration day to the last Tuesday in April, until next Thursday. Five hundred and eighty thousand dollars were collected in Virginia under the tax referred to, more than half of it in Alexandria and Fairfax counties; the remainder in Norfolk, Loudoun, Fauquier, Accomac and Northampton.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Riddleberger presented petitions from Alleghany, Norfolk and Loudoun, for local option in Virginia; a petition of the Germania Club of New York against an extradition treaty with England; a petition of the druggists of Richmond for the repeal of the internal revenue tax; also the resolutions of the 20th session of the National Grange.

The Texas investigation was resumed to-day. One of the witnesses examined was the judge of the court in which the affair being investigated occurred. Being asked by Senator Teller, republican, if he did not think that men who carried off ballot boxes should be killed, he said he thought the law should always be observed. Mr. Teller said he thought people who forcibly stole ballot boxes should be killed on the spot, and would be in his hands. Mr. Ensis, democrat, another member of the committee, immediately asked Mr. Teller what he thought should be done with the men who stole the Presidency. Mr. Teller tried to reply but failed.

To show that no educational bill has any chance at this session of Congress is proved by the fact that though the House has a bill, which has such a bill, asked for a day to-day, their request was denied, even though they promised not to bring up such a bill.

Ex-Governor Cameron, of Virginia, returned from New York yesterday, spent the night here, and left for his home this morning. He loves General Mahone no better now than he did last fall, and says that Riddleberger should be his own man in the Senate.

The vote on the question of passing the dependent pension bill over the President's veto will be taken on Thursday next. It will, it is thought, be very close, and bets are made as to the result. All the Southern democrats will vote to sustain the veto, but most of those from the North will vote with the republicans to pass it. So close, it is expected, will the vote be that absentees are being sent for wherever they can be reached. Mr. Croxon, of Virginia, being at Tappanhook, 60 miles from a telegraph station, is the cause of much anxiety, it being feared he cannot be summoned to reach here in time.

The friends of the cable railroad here seem to have abandoned all hope of the passage of the bill for that purpose at this session. Among those present at the grand Glover-Patten wedding here last night were ex-Mayor Smith and Mr. W. E. Fendall, of Alexandria.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The President will not appoint any member of Congress on the interstate commission.

The Acting Secretary of the Treasury yesterday issued a call for ten million dollars three per cent. bonds. The call will mature April 1st.

The bill for the national defence prepared by the British House Committee on Military Affairs calls for the expenditure of \$4,700,000.

There are indications that the senatorial deadlock in the West Virginia Legislature will be broken to-morrow by enough republicans voting for Mr. Camden to elect him.

The elections in Berlin yesterday resulted unfavorably for all government candidates. In four of the six divisions second ballots will be necessary, but in each of these divisions the anti-septennate candidate has at present a majority.

The Senate yesterday passed the river and harbor appropriation bill, after adopting several amendments. It also by a vote of 35 to 5, passed the bill to incorporate the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, and by a vote of 42 to 18, defeated a motion of Mr. Riddleberger to adjourn over to day "in memory of the Father of his Country."

In the divorce proceeding before the circuit court at Frederick, Md., of Mrs. H. E. Carroll against Gen. S. Sprigg Carroll, for a divorce on the ground of adultery, &c., Judge Vinson has signed an order ignoring the agreement that Mrs. Carroll should accept \$75 per month and Gen. Carroll pay her \$100 per month alimony, and an allowance for counsel fees. Mr. John Ambler Smith, her counsel, states the testimony will be taken in Washington in a few days.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

All the workmen in the construction department of the Portsmouth navy-yard have been discharged for want of funds.

The special committee of the Legislature to investigate the oyster interest of the State will meet at West Point to day to commence the investigation.

The following fourth-class postmasters have been appointed in this State: J. Lee Jackson, Cherry Creek, Carroll county; Flora B. Thornhill, Hughes River, Rappahannock county; Arthur A. Talfiero, Layton, Essex county.

Colonel W. P. Munford, an officer of the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad, and for many years the secretary of the old James River and Kanawha Canal Company, died at Richmond yesterday. He was a graduate of West Point Military Academy, and was widely known in the State.

Two survivors of Pickett's Confederate division, which made itself famous by the charge at Cemetery Ridge, at Gettysburg, have completed arrangements for a reunion at the scene of that battle on the anniversary this year. The Association of Pickett's Division was organized with General W. R. Terry, president, Major Charles Pickett, brother of the dead general, vice president, and Charles T. Lehr, secretary. It is expected that from fifteen hundred to two thousand of Pickett's men will visit Gettysburg on the third of July next.

DEBT SETTLING MEASURE PROPOSED.—"Capitol officers" says the Richmond Dispatch are not yet entirely satisfied that there will be an extra session of the General Assembly; but "they think it quite probable that the Governor will call it." (A!) If there is an extra session, it is said a constitutional amendment will be the feature of interest. What is suggested is to give bondholders twelve months in which to fund their holdings into new 3's, and to outlaw after that date all other outstanding indebtedness. (Wont do; the obligation of contract cannot be impaired.) Such an amendment, if agreed to by this General Assembly, would have to be referred to it, would then have to be submitted to the people at some general or special election for ratification or rejection. There is difference of opinion among leading democrats as to the necessity and probable effectiveness of such an amendment to the Constitution. (Yes, we think a decided difference.)

THE TWENTY-SECOND.

A Grand Parade—Imposing Spectacle—An Event Long to be Remembered—Extensive Decorations—A Regular Old-Time Turnout.

The twenty-second of February, peculiarly a Virginia holiday, and for so long a time a gala day in old Alexandria, was celebrated this time with more than the usual zeal, and from all that has been seen and heard to the entire satisfaction of both participants and spectators. Preparations for the due observance of the occasion, the anniversary of the birth of the immortal Washington, have been in progress for the past two months, and the citizens' committee to whom was entrusted the task of waiting upon the people for contributions toward the desired object have been untiring in their exertions, and met with encouragement from nearly all upon whom they waited, and were not long in collecting an amount approximating very closely the sum desired to make the parade what it eventuated in—a grand success. The firemen, with their wonted energy and pride in the matter, have, too, been busy in making their preparations, and the appearance of the different apparatus, as well as themselves individually, clothed in the paraphernalia of their respective companies, proved conclusively that their toils and painstaking had not been futile. The nimble fingers of the lady friends of the fire department had been by no means idle, while their ingenious brains, too, had been taxed to no slight degree in designing and arranging decorations for the gliding steamer and the magnificent new hook and ladder truck, which to day, for the first time added to the splendor of a twenty-second of February pageant. The military never appeared to better advantage, and their soldierly bearing to day proved that their lessons in tactics had been well learned.

At the outset we referred to the twenty-second as a Virginia holiday and for a long time regarded as Alexandria's gala day. These thoughts should have a deeper root in our souls than is sometimes manifest. In these days, when the population has been increased to over fifty millions of souls and when new suns are continually rising only to be eclipsed by others following in their wake whom Fortune or Chance the late Mr. Greeley has called causes to flicker for a moment—there is danger of growing apathy towards the memory of our actual heroes—heroes who rocked the cradle of the republic and through whose self abnegation, toils, dangers and by the shedding of whose blood we enjoy the blessings of a free government and have our lot cast in a land where every man can worship his Creator under his own vine and fig tree, and that, too, in whatsoever mode his conscience or predilections may dictate. Now while there were many heroes during the days when this infant confederation struggled against George III. and the iron heel of Britain, the name of GEORGE WASHINGTON certainly shines forth with preeminent lustre—the name which should and generally does send a thrill through every patriotic man throughout our vast domain, more especially in Virginians, among whom he was a fellow citizen, sharing in all their troubles, though called upon to pay the debt of nature almost before the fruits of his great mission in life ripened into the maturity which later generations have both witnessed and enjoyed. But while every man calling himself a citizen of the country should revere the memory of Washington, what feelings should well up in the breasts of Alexandrians, when the anniversary of his birth recurs, among whom the illustrious soldier and statesman mingled daily—in whose streets he trod, from whose postoffice he received his mail, in whose lodge room he sat in "the east," in whose market house he was so often met, in whose church he worshipped, and with whose people he held familiar converse! Should there be an apathetic soul in our midst when the anniversary of his birth rolls round? No; its due observance should be as obligatory upon us as though it were a law of the Medes and Persians.

Two recurrences, however, have been allowed to pass unobserved, the last celebration of the day having been in 1884. In twenty-third of the subsequent year was the time set for unveiling the Washington monument, which event, of course, engrossed so much attention that no attempt was made to observe the day here, and last year it was also allowed to come and go unheeded. This time, however, the idea of celebrating the day soon evolved into a fixed purpose, and all classes have vied to make it a success—a notable success—and their efforts have been crowned with a full fruition of all their hopes.

The population—ephemeral, of course—has been augmented about one hundred per cent. All the railroads have run extra trains to accommodate the influx, while the steamers on the river have been taxed to their greatest capacity in transporting visitors to and from the scene of festivity. The number of buildings decorated with flags, festoons, &c., seemed much larger than on any previous twenty-second, and in many cases the bunting was strung across streets. Alexandria, in short, put on her holiday attire, and never did she show off to better advantage. The younger generation, in whose lives such occasions form epochs, were thrilled with delight, and by their astute and happy countenances were calculated to impress one with the belief that their cup of joy, transitory though it be, was nearly if not up to the brim.

The final preparations for the grand pageant were in progress all the morning, and by the time the hour arrived for forming the procession it seemed that nothing had been forgotten and all were ready for the carnival.

The morning opened dark and lowering, but as the day progressed the clouds broke and the sun shone out in bright effulgence, and the remainder of the day was beautiful.

The Chief Marshal, Mr. D. A. Windsor, met his aides and marshals on Washington street, between King and Cameron, at 10:30 o'clock, and assigned them to duty. Soon thereafter the various military and fire companies and other organizations began to form in different parts of the city and take their positions in line as assigned them.

At 1 o'clock, at the command of the chief marshal, the parade moved from the corner of Washington and Cameron streets in the following order:

First Division.—Mounted police under command of Lieut. Jas. Smith, D. A. Windsor, chief marshal, with Maj. Turnbull, U. S. A.; Park Agnew, W. B. Smoot and Geo. Uhlerrides, with white sashes and rosettes.

Marshals.—John B. Hooe, J. E. Johnston, John G. Beckham, Geo. R. Hill, Frank Martin, Richard Wattles, A. E. Smoot, R. Brown, O. F. Carter, Edward McWilliams, R. E. Janney, H. D. Catts, V. M. Power, J. H. Gibbs, Henry McWilliams, Geo. Fowle, J. H. Catts, B. F. Beattie, Frank Carlin, Everett Triplett, Thomas Waters, and others, with blue, yellow and red sashes and rosettes.

Mayor and City Officials, Parade Committees and Fire Wardens in carriage.

Old Stonewall Brigade Band.

Alexandria Light Infantry, Co. F, 3rd Virginia Regiment, Capt. Moschib.

Union Veteran Corps of Washington, Lieut. Thompson.

Drum Corps.

St. John's Cadet Corps, Maj. Newby.

Drum Corps.
Corcoran Cadet Corps, Capt. Edwards.
Buzles.
Company C, 3rd United States Artillery, Lieut. Randolph, consisting of 50 men and horses and four field pieces and four caissons and full corps of mounted officers.

Second Division—Marshals.
Drum Corps.
Visiting Veteran Firemen, with their antique apparatus, from Baltimore and Washington.
Drum and Fire Corps.
Friendship Fire Company.
Section of Marine Band.
Beller Hook and Ladder Company.
Juvenile Association.
Alexandria Band.
Columbia Fire Company.
Third Division—Marshals.
City and Visiting Trades.

The following was the route of the procession: Route—From on Washington street, right resting on Cameron, down Cameron to Royal, out Royal to Queen, down Queen to Fairfax, out Fairfax to Prince, down Prince to Lee, down Lee to Wilkes, up Wilkes to Fairfax, up Fairfax to Duke, up Duke to Columbus, up Columbus to Prince, down Prince to Fairfax, out Fairfax to King, up King to West, out West to Prince, down Prince to Royal, up Royal to Queen, up Queen to Washington, down Washington to Duke, counter-march on Washington to King, down King and disband between Royal and Fairfax.

The first company in line was the

ALEXANDRIA LIGHT INFANTRY.

The Alexandria Light Infantry, under command of Capt. G. A. Mushback and Lieutenants S. L. Monroe and Albert Bryan mustered 40 muskets. They wore their State regulation uniform of gray cloth, white cross belt, &c., and also their tall black bearskin shakos. This company won deserved applause all along the route of the procession, and the soldierly appearance, military bearing, discipline and drill of the members showed that it richly deserves the affection and esteem in which it is held by the citizens generally. On parade they were soldiers; off duty they were gentlemen, and dispensing hospitality they were princes, and by every one with whom they came in contact were voted "jolly good fellows." This company by hard work and unceasing drill, have made the name of the Alexandria Light Infantry known and respected for their proficiency in the duties of the soldier and the excellence of their tactical manœuvres throughout the length and breadth of this country. They have won laurels for Alexandria at Lynchburg, twice; Richmond twice; Charlottesville, Philadelphia and New York. They were headed by the Old Stonewall Brigade Band, of Staunton, 25 pieces, led by Prof. Webb, which was one of the features of the procession.

UNION VETERAN CORPS.

The Union Veteran Corps, First Company, of Washington, under command of Lieutenant Thomson, Fenton, and Ackerman came next. They wore dark blue uniforms, with rapier and sword, and handsome bearskin shakos. This was truly a fine looking body of men, and were none the less admired by the ladies for being old veterans.

ST. JOHN'S CADET CORPS.

The Cadet Corps of St. John's Academy turned out only company A, which was under the command of Maj. H. W. Newby, with Capt. W. H. Sweeney and Lieut. Wm. N. Foreacre. The boys wore their handsome uniforms of cadet gray and black, with State buttons, and bore their superb embroidered colors. They marched, as usual, like veterans, and bore themselves like soldiers, and it is more than probable, could have given "points" to many of their seniors. They were preceded by a life and drum corps.

CORCORAN CADETS.

The St. John's Cadets' guests, the Corcoran Cadet Corps, Capt. Edwards, of Washington, followed. They numbered 25 or 40 and were in elegant new uniforms of blue and white and carried new and superior arms just furnished them. They, too, are a finely drilled body of young men and made a fine show. They were preceded by a band.

U. S. ARTILLERY.

Then came Battery C, 3rd U. S. Artillery, Maj. Turnbull commanding, with Lieuts. H. B. Randolph, C. H. Bennett and—Lemley. The battery consisted of four field pieces, with caissons, the men dressed in the regulation U. S. artillery uniform, attracted as much attention as any command in the line. It was said by all that Uncle Sam had done the handsome thing, and in return the officers and men received marked attention. The battery arrived here at 11 o'clock and proceeded, under escort, to their position in line.

THE WASHINGTON FIREMEN.

The Veteran Firemen's Association of Washington, a fine looking body of men, then came. They were dressed in citizens' dress, and occupied a prominent place in line. They turned out 150 strong and were offered by J. J. Penabody president, J. Fisher secretary and L. Neimeyer and Joseph Acton marshals. They were followed by Captain Wm. Geary, and other veterans in carriages.

The two bodies of visiting firemen were delayed in their arrival here and were not in line when the procession moved, but were assigned to a position immediately on reaching this city.

BALTIMORE FIREMEN.

Then came the Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association, of Baltimore, marshaled by G. C. T. Holloway, president, and J. E. Carroll and J. S. Hammond, assistants. They wore the full uniform of the association—drab coat, drab pants and red shirt, black necktie, buff gloves, association fire cap, black belt and red pocket handkerchief. They drew the old apparatus of the company which was tastefully decorated and in the line were the United States Association, Maryland and markers flags. Accompanying the Veterans were a number of friends of the association, in citizen's dress, with badges. They were headed by a fine drum corps.

FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY.

First in the firemen's division came the old Friendship company, chartered in 1774, and of which Washington was once a member. The company has been out of active service for some time but this does not prevent many of the members from rendering valuable assistance in time of fires. In the parade the company was headed by a drum and fire corps; was in command of Nimrod Nowland, foreman, and marshaled by C. C. Chichester and Jas. Hamersley. The members were dressed in caps, red shirts and black pants. The "plug catcher" was drawn by a number of boys in uniform, the reel by the members, and the engine by four bay horses. Mounted on the engine were four boys dressed in costumes. The three pieces of apparatus were prettily decorated with evergreens, flowers and flags and were much admired. Mr. James Javens, president, led the company.

RELIEF HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY.

Following came the Relief Hook and Ladder Company, headed by fifteen pieces of the Marine Band, under Prof. Petola, in their fleshy red uniform. This company was under command of R. M. Latham, foreman, and marshaled by Frank Warfield. The members, twenty five strong, led by the vice president, Mr. Henry Green, were uniformed in black New York firemen's hats, white shirts, trimmed with red and gold, black pants and belts. The handsome new truck, recently purchased for the company, looking as new as when it was turned out of the shops, was drawn by four fine gray horses, handsomely caparisoned with

plumes and bright harness, the lines held by the driver, Mr. John Clapdore. The truck is too pretty a piece of apparatus to be hidden with decorations, so was unadorned but generally admired.

COLUMBIA FIRE COMPANY.

Then came the Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 4, with 40 men in line, their uniform consisting of green fire hats, red shirts and black pants. They were headed by a section of the Marine Band. The company, under command of G. N. Duffley, foreman, was marshaled by A. E. Smoot and Richard Price, and headed by its officers, W. A. Smoot, president, and A. T. Ramsey, vice-president. Six pipemen, with their polished pipes, each containing a beautiful bouquet, came next; then two axemen, followed by two boys carrying handsome silver torches. Then came the hose carriage, drawn by the members of the company. The carriage was tastefully decorated with flowers and wreaths, and was surmounted by a platform on which were placed two miniature chairs, seated in which were figures of George Washington and his wife, with a white dove suspended over them. Then came reel No. 2, drawn by four horses, driven by Mr. Chas. Adams. This reel was also beautifully decorated with flags, evergreens and flowers, and mounted upon it was a representation of the Goddess of Liberty. Then came the engine, drawn by four fine horses, handsomely harnessed, the "ribbons" being held by the driver, Mr. Henry Poyer, who was perched on the seat which had been prettily decorated for the occasion by the lady friends of the company. The engine was highly furnished, and reflected like a mirror. On the stack was a magnificent pyramid of flowers, surmounted by a bright copper ball, and from the dome were arches of flowers, suspended from each of which was a cotton basket, fastened with fancy ribbons. Affixed over the engine on an arch was the word "Columbia" in silver letters. The engineer, Mr. Loudoun Campbell, rode on his engine, standing on a plush covered foot board. The company, as usual on such occasions, presented a fine appearance, and it is doubtful if any engine was ever more beautifully decorated, the lady friends of the members sending the prettiest specimens of their handiwork to "dress" the Columbia. Preceding were the "Junior Columbia Company," composed of a number of little boys, all dressed as firemen, in red shirts, &c.

THE TRADES.

Then followed the representatives of many of the trades of the city, which made a most creditable appearance. Most prominent in line were a handsomely decorated wagon of Mr. J. H. D. Smoot, piled with doors, sash, dressed lumber, &c.; a mammoth hat on a wagon belonging to Mr. C. W. Howell; four decorated wagons of Messrs. Summers & Allen, in which were men busily at work making and bottling soda and mineral waters; a fully equipped locomotive manned by employees of the Virginia Midland Railway; decorated wagon of McBurney & Son, grocers; Hellmuth Bros., butchers; Tins, Hays, tin ware; J. W. Hammond, ice; J. C. Milburn, grocer; City Express; Porter's Brewery; L. Stabler, mineral water, and the Dektown Fire Brigade, a burlesque fire apparatus, &c.

THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The various organizations in line were well repaid for the elaborate preparations they made before entering on parade, and seldom has there been a more satisfactory celebration in this city. All in line were heartily applauded for the handsome appearance they made and for their becoming conduct.

On the disbanding of the procession the home companies proceeded to their respective quarters and the visiting military and firemen were entertained at dinner in the store on the corner of King and Fairfax streets, where Mr. George Bassart, under instructions of the parade committee, had prepared a bountiful repast. Later the visitors took the boats and trains for their homes.

The officers of several of the commands were entertained at the club rooms and at many private residences of the city.

NOTES.

At the barracks of St. John's Academy, a handsome banner of the Virginia State colors, buff and blue, bearing the simple legend "Washington" in large gold letters, was suspended across Duke street and over the large bay window in front, was a decoration of national colors, with the legend, "Welcome," surmounted by an array of flags. Many of the parents and friends of the cadets from Washington and elsewhere, witnessed the procession from this point.

The parade committee received all credit for the entire success of the occasion. Many of the dignitaries in line were handsome animals and attracted considerable attention.

Before leaving the city the military visitors attended the A. L. L. fair.

Besides other decorations a beautiful State flag—the property of the Alexandria Light Infantry—floated from the front of the GAZETTE office.

The saddle and spurs worn by Chief Marshal Windsor to-day, were the same as those worn by President Lincoln.

A delegation of Indians, in their native costume, came here this evening from Washington and attracted general attention on the streets.

Letter from Culpeper.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]
CULPEPER, Va., Feb. 21.—A very fine young mare was stolen from the stable and farm of Squire W. C. Petty, near Mitchell's Station, on Saturday night last. A strange yellow negro with side whiskers, wearing a blue coat, brown pants and black hat, was seen lurking in the neighborhood late Saturday evening, and is supposed to be the thief. A reward has been offered for the conviction of the thief.

H. C. Capehart, a native of North Carolina, but for several years past a resident of this place and one of the finest of workmen in silver, died suddenly last night at the Virginia Hotel, while sitting in a chair of heart disease.

February court day has been universally prolific in the production of candidates and swagging humanity.

Several horses and mules were being offered for sale to-day, but owing to the scarcity of money in the country and the absence of city buyers, sales were dull and limited.

THISTLE.

Ten thousand chests of indigo have been taken at Calcutta for the American market.

This is to give notice that all citizens troubled with coughs or colds should procure a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup and take it at once.

Officials of the U. S. Treasury, of the Baltimore Custom House and Post Office endorse Salvation Oil.

COMMERCIAL.

ALEXANDRIA MARKET, February 22, 1887.—This being a holiday, there was no meeting of the Commercial Exchange.

BALTIMORE HOG MARKET, February 21.—There is a falling off to a very considerable extent in the number of the offerings as compared with the total of last week, and a fair to good demand prevails in all the yards. The quality of the offerings averages quite as good as did that of last week's receipts. Prices show an advance of about 3c per lb. We now quote at 6 1/2c per lb net, with most sales from 7 1/4 to 7 3/4c. Receipts this week 7390 head.

POSTSCRIPT

ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES

To-day's Proceedings of Congress.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, 1887.
SENATE.

The presiding officer presented a communication from the Secretary of War, in reply to a resolution inquiring as to the employment of clerks in the Adjutant General's and Surgeon General's offices extra hours. The presiding officer also presented a communication from the Secretary of the Interior in reply to a resolution inquiring as to any rule in the pension office denying a hearing to applicants who have applied to Congress for relief.

The Secretary enclosed a copy of a decision on that subject made by assistant Secretary Jenks in February 1886, and says that the matter had not been called to his attention by appeal or otherwise. Referred to the committee on pensions.

The presiding officer also presented messages from the President disapproving pension bills for Rachel Ann Pierpont and Jacob Smith; because the like pensions had also been granted to them regularly through the pension office, antedating the period when the pensions under these special acts would take effect; also pension bill for John D. Fincher, on the ground of absence of disability.

A number of petitions were presented, among them one by Mr. Riddleberger from druggists of Richmond, Va., for the repeal of the internal revenue taxes, after which numerous bills were introduced and referred.

Mr. Allison, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a resolution fixing hours of session from 11 a. m. to 9 p. m., with one hour for recess. Laid over.

The presiding officer presented the following:

To the Senate of the United States:

SENATORS: My office as President pro tempore of the Senate will necessarily terminate on the 4th of March, next, with my present term as Senator. It will promote the convenience of the Senate and the public service to elect a Senator as President pro tempore whose term extends beyond that date, so that he may administer the oath of office to Senators-elect and aid in the organization.

I therefore respectfully request that position, to take effect at one o'clock p. m. on Saturday next, February 26.

Permit me, in doing so, to express my heartfelt thanks for the uniform courtesy and forbearance shown me while in the discharge of my duties as presiding officer, by every member of the Senate. Very truly yours,

JOHN STEPHENS.

The communication was ordered to be entered in the journal and placed on file.

HOUSE.

The House met this morning at 11 o'clock. Mr. Bland, of Missouri, as a privileged question, called up the voted bill increasing the pension of John W. Tarris. He bore testimony from a personal knowledge of the claimant to the merit of the claim and asked that the House pass the bill over the veto.

The House refused to pass the bill over the veto—yeas 132, nays 93—not the constitutional two thirds vote in the affirmative.

The House then resumed, in Committee of the Whole the consideration of Senate amendments to the sundry civil appropriation bill.

The German Election.

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—From present calculations Prince Bismarck will barely obtain a majority for his septennate bill. He required forty votes. He has already won 20 and the remainder are almost certain to be secured from the wavering Center. It is certain that the government will not obtain a majority sufficient to adopt the monetary bills. Herr Windthorst has been re-elected. The progressists are demoralized. They have met with an unexpected defeat and have already lost 17 seats. They have only gained one seat. The socialists have lost seven and gained three. The total social vote shows an increase of 500,000. The traditional liberals have gained nearly 25 seats as they have lost.

At 2 p. m. the results in 133 districts were known. The candidates elected include 17 conservatives, 5 imperialists, 43 national liberals, 14 centrists, 4 new German liberals, 6 socialists and 14 poles and Albatrosses. In 30 districts new elections will be required. So far 103 candidates have been defeated, elected comprising 66 septennists and 37 opponents of the government.

Explosion of Natural Gas.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 22.—An explosion of natural gas at the Black Diamond steel works, late yesterday afternoon, probably fatally burned a workman named James Kerr and severely injured five others. The men were engaged in repairing a furnace. Kerr was in the back part and asked for a light. A torch was handed him and an instant later there was a terrific explosion. Kerr was thrown on his back and the others hurled through the furnace door. One of them, recovering himself, rushed back to the furnace and drew Kerr from amidst the blazing gas. Kerr was terribly burned about the head, face, neck and body. It is thought some of the workmen turned the gas on for a joke, or did not know of the repairs to be made the furnace, which was only slightly injured.

Inefficiency of the Mad Stone.

NEW ALBANY, Miss., Feb. 22.—Robert Hanks, a young farmer of this city, was bitten by a rabid dog December last. By the advice of his friends he at once used the mad stone near Waterford, Miss. After a couple of days at the stone he returned home feeling safe, relying greatly on the virtues of the mad stone. But little thought of the matter was given until last Thursday morning, when he awoke with a burning throb, out on water being handed him he went to violent convulsions. He suffered the most intense agony until he was released by death yesterday.



ALEXANDRIA.

TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22.

THE PARADE here to-day in celebration of Washington's birthday was a very creditable affair, and, apparently at least, was enjoyed by all who witnessed it. The 22d, with rare exceptions, has always been observed in Alexandria, and always should be; and its celebration should grow with the city's growth.

IF THE President be consistent, it is hard to tell how he can help vetoing the bill to redeem the trade dollars. In his letter to Mr. Warner, and other democratic members of the 48th Congress, he deplored the consequences of the continued coinage of the silver dollar, said it was of momentous importance to prevent an increase of such coinage, and portrayed in graphic style the evil effects of that increase in swelling down the purchasing power of every silver dollar paid into the hand of toil. The bill, as originally passed by the Senate, was a proper one, but the House, by amending it, at the instance of the silverites in that body, so as to provide that the trade dollars to be purchased by the Government at their face value shall not be included in the two million dollars worth of silver it is required to purchase every month, but shall be an addition thereto, made it subject to all the objections the President rightly urged two years ago, and must compel him to veto it—that is, if he be not a subscriber to General Ransom's doctrine, that "a modern politician can't afford to be consistent."

CONGRESSMAN WILLIS, of Kentucky, has not yet abandoned his efforts in behalf of the Blair, or some other, educational bill, and is said to be still actively at work trying to get the promise of support for another attempt to have some such bill passed at this session of Congress. Mr. Willis is a hopeful man. From the commencement of the 49th Congress it has been apparent that no such bill as that referred to could be passed